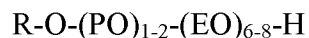


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1-9. (Canceled).
10. (Withdrawn) A powdered peracetic acid disinfectant composition comprising:
- (a) a peroxide;
 - (b) an acylating agent; and
 - (c) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula



wherein R is

$\text{C}_8 = 0 \text{ to } 5 \%$ by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$\text{C}_{9-10} = 75 \text{ to } 90 \%$ by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$\text{C}_{11-12} = 5 \text{ to } 15 \%$ by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

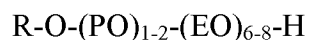
$\text{C}_{13-14} = 4 \text{ to } 10 \%$ by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and

$\text{C}_{15-16} = 0 \text{ to } 3 \%$ by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition

and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxylated alkyl phenol.

11. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium perborate monohydrate, sodium perborate tetrahydrate, sodium percarbonate, and mixtures thereof.

12. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, wherein the acylating agent is selected from the group consisting of tetraacetyl glycoluril, tetraacetyl ethylenediamine, diacetyl hexahydrotriaone dione, and mixtures thereof.
13. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising
from about 10 to about 70 wt. % peroxide;
from about 10 to about 40 wt. % acylating agent; and
from about 0.1 to about 10 wt. % nonionic surfactant.
14. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising:
from about 15 to about 60 wt. % peroxide;
from about 15 to about 30 wt. % acylating agent; and
from about 0.5 to about 5 wt. % nonionic surfactant.
15. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising a soluble inorganic salt.
16. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising additional auxiliary ingredients.
17. (Previously Presented) A method of disinfecting a surface in the medical field comprising:
- (a) providing a peracid-generating powder composition comprising:
 - (i) an uncoated peroxide;
 - (ii) an acylating agent; and
 - (iii) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula



wherein R is

C_8 = 0 to 5 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

C_{9-10} = 75 to 90 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

C_{11-12} = 5 to 15 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

C_{13-14} = 4 to 10 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and

C_{15-16} = 0 to 3 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition

and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxyated alkyl phenol, wherein the nonionic surfactant is present in an amount effective to improve the dissolution rate of the powder composition in water;

(b) mixing from about 1 to about 10 wt.% of the powder composition with water to form a peracid use composition; and

(c) applying said use composition to a surface in an amount effective to kill an organism selected from the group consisting of gram-positive bacteria, mycobacteria, viruses, and mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the surface is a medical instrument.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium perborate monohydrate, sodium perborate tetrahydrate, sodium percarbonate, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the acylating agent is selected from the group consisting of tetraacetyl glycoluril, tetraacetyl ethylenediamine, diacetyl hexahydrotriaone dione, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder comprising from about 10 to about 70 wt. % peroxide;

- from about 10 to about 40 wt. % acylating agent; and
- from about 0.1 to about 10 wt. % nonionic surfactant.
22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder comprising:
- from about 15 to about 60 wt. % peroxide;
- from about 15 to about 30 wt. % acylating agent; and
- from about 0.5 to about 5 wt. % nonionic surfactant.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder further comprising a soluble inorganic salt.
24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder further comprising additional auxiliary ingredients.
25. (Withdrawn) A powdered peracetic acid disinfectant composition comprising:
- (a) a peroxide;
 - (b) an acylating agent; and
 - (c) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula
- $$\text{R-O-(PO)}_{1-2}\text{-(EO)}_{6-8}\text{-H}$$
- wherein R is at least about 75 % by weight C₁₀ of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxylated alkyl phenol.
26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the additional auxiliary ingredients are selected from the group consisting of alkalising agents, complexing agents, corrosion inhibitors, and surfactants.